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House Majority Leader Steve Precourt Calls for Bipartisan Support of House Budget

Tallahassee, Fla.—Today Florida House Majority Leader Steve Precourt released the following statement on House Democrats voting against the 2013 General Appropriations Act in today's Appropriations Committee meeting.

"With their unfavorable votes this afternoon on the House budget proposal, the House Democrats on the Appropriations Committee surprisingly rejected \$1 billion in new K-12 education funding, including \$676 million for increased teacher pay, providing hard working state employees with a \$1,400 across the board recurring pay increase and strengthening Florida's safety net for the elderly, disabled and mentally ill.

"Throughout the process of developing this budget, we reached out to our colleagues across the aisle in an effort to work together to provide funding increases to areas that all members, and their constituents, would agree are a priority this year.

"This budget, which maximizes every dollar while responsibly planning for the future, warranted bipartisan support today. It is disappointing that House Democrats chose to focus on one area of disagreement in this budget rather than show their support for the numerous funding increases that they agree are needed in our state. In moving forward, I sincerely hope the Democrats reevaluate the position they have taken and support a responsible, balanced budget that increases education funding and provides much deserved pay raises to our employees when it comes up for a vote on the House floor."

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